

Biographical information for Gary Sredzienski, Accordion Warrior

Gary Sredzienski demonstrates the diversity of the piano accordion with a wide variety of styles encompassing several continents. His solo recordings on his own Bellows Music label have landed him national performances with various cultural organizations.

In May of 2000 Gary was nominated by Congressman John Sununu to represent NH in a performance at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage. In July of 2000 he performed throughout Romania on a tour sponsored by the Smithsonian Folklife Center, the State Department, and the Governor of NH. He is continually involved in recording projects.

In addition to performing for choral and dance groups, Gary performs 1960s surf rock, traditional ethnic, and his accordion compositions with the Portsmouth based group, the "Serfs." He was awarded an Arts Fellowship from the NH State Council on the Arts in 1997 and received the Artist Achievement Award by Seacoast Newspapers in 2002. Gary represented NH at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in 1999 and the Lowell National Folk Festival in 2003.

Gary also hosts a 1950's style ethnic radio show, "Polka Party" weekly at WUNH-FM in Durham.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

"The piano accordion is an amazingly versatile instrument with roots in many cultures. I have dedicated my life's work to preserving the "Old World" tradition of the performing accordionist. Over the years my love of the accordion has transported me to cultural venues which share diverse musical forms and traditions." -- Gary Sredzienski

Gary began his professional career at age 9. At age 10, he traveled around New England performing with a vaudeville act called The Hog Hollow Hooters. In addition to continuous solo performances, Gary has performed with the Lublin Polish Song and Dance Ensemble of Haverhill-Boston, the Birka Scandinavian Dancers of Hamilton, MA, Ballet New England, Voices from the Heart Women's Chorus, with Bill Zecker, and the retro '60s rock-and-roll band, "The Serfs."

Gary is the owner of over 50 accordions of various shapes, origins, and sizes. He also has a collection of thousands of old recordings and sheet music.

Gary is a NH Artist-in-Residence, and presents educational programs in NH's schools on a regular basis. He is a member of the NH State Council on the Arts Touring and Arts in Education Roster. Funding for nonprofit NH events is available through the Arts Council. Contact them for more information: NH State Council on the Arts, 40 No. Main St., Concord, NH 03301; (603) 271-2789 and on the web at: www.state.nh.us/nharts/

For more information, contact Gary directly at:

Gary Sredzienski, Bellows Music

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